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(177)



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: 2309/01095

#4/A
KW
1-6-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Nobuhiro KURATA et al. Confirmation No.: 9174

Serial No.: 09/746,033 Art Unit: 1771

Filed: December 21, 2000 Examiner: SALVATORE, Lynda

For: WATER-DECOMPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

BOX NON FEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as follows (see the accompanying "marked up" version pursuant to 1.121):